

State of California

The Resources Agency

Memorandum

To: Mr. Samuel Schuchat, Executive Director
State Coastal Conservancy
Attn: Chris Kroll
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, California 94612

Date: May 31, 1994

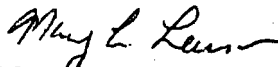
From Department of Fish and Game - 4665 Lampson Avenue, Suite C, Los Alamitos, California 90720

Subject: San Mateo Creek Steelhead Recovery Project, Phase III

The Department of Fish and Game (Department) has reviewed the current Coastal Conservancy staff recommendation as well as the "Habitat Assessment Data" report and the preliminary "Evaluation of Exotic Species Removal Techniques" report that were developed in Phases I and II by Trout Unlimited. We agree that there is a need for further evaluation of non-native species removal techniques, which were developed during Phase II. Additionally, the Department supports the recommendation that monies be spent on development of a long-term management strategy and the necessary environmental documents that will support non-native species removal in San Mateo Creek watershed located in San Diego, Orange, and Riverside counties.

As you are aware, the presence of non-native fish, bull frogs, and crayfish has resulted in the decimation and displacement of the native fish, amphibians, and pond turtles within the watershed. Trout Unlimited, in working closely with the Coastal Conservancy, Department, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the United States Forest Service, other cooperating governmental agencies, and non-profit groups, has made a good start on the long-term goal of restoring the habitat value of San Mateo Creek for the Federally-endangered Steelhead and other aquatic resources. Thus Phase III is the logical next step in achieving our goals in San Mateo Creek.

For these reasons, we support and approve of the Coastal Conservancy's proposed grant of \$100,000 to Trout Unlimited. Further, we urge your support of the San Mateo Creek Steelhead Recovery Project, Phase III.


Mary Larson
Senior Fisheries Biologist Specialist

cc: Mr. Tim Hovey
Department of Fish and Game